

**Crush the Putin regime's war of aggression in Ukraine!
Denounce the Netanyahu regime for genocide
against Palestinians in Gaza!
Prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war
with the unity of the world's people!**

The Executive Committee for the 62nd International Antiwar Assembly

Zengakuren [All-Japan Federation of Students' Self-Governing Associations]

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Stop the murderer regimes' brutalities, nation extermination!

Workers, students and citizens all over the world!

We are now seeing unprecedentedly atrocious wars of aggression designed to exterminate specific nations from the earth. One is *Putin's war* in Ukraine, and the other is the *genocide against Palestinians in Gaza by the Netanyahu regime of Israel*.

Against 2.3 million people living in the Palestinian Territory of Gaza, a small strip dubbed an 'open-air prison', the government of Benjamin Netanyahu and its army are perpetrating genocide at this very moment in time. With a cry of 'Wipe out Hamas!', they have unleashed their inhumanity and barbarity. While driving out Gazans repeatedly, now southward, now northward, the murderers have been raining missiles and shells on homes, schools and even hospitals, and further refugee camps, thus plunging them in seas of blood. By blocking the territorial borders, they have prevented water, food and medical supplies, thereby thrusting people into an abyss of starvation. The death toll has already reached nearly 40 thousand, 40 per cent of which are pitiful children. The number of victims buried under the rubble remains unknown.

The ultimate goal of this murderer regime is obvious, that is, to exterminate the very existence of the Palestinian nation from the earth. That is why this regime is not only perpetrating massacres of Gazans but also unleashing its brutality against Palestinians in the West Bank, while expanding Zionist settlements by force.

American imperialism, which has always backed the Zionist government of Israel, is effectively condoning this atrocious holocaust, and is still supplying missiles and bombs. Even though the Biden administration occasionally announces its 'proposal for ceasefire', that is just an attempt to escape from the protesting voice against the genocide now spreading widely among young generations across the country, as the presidential election is just around the corner.

Another brutality, identical with *Netanyahu's war*, has been conducted in Ukraine for two and a half years. A massacre in Bucha, that in Borodianka, and a carnage in Mariupol... In Mariupol, among its population of 400 thousand, 20 thousand innocent people were brutally murdered by Russian forces. This includes the indiscriminate air raid on the theater which sheltered a great number of people.

Czar Putin, today's Hitler, and his supporters, 'Siloviks' in security apparatuses such as the FSB, are ambitious to demolish the independent state of Ukraine and incorporate it into the Russian Federation, with the evil aspiration of Great Russian nationalism.

Look at what the Putin regime is doing in the occupied areas of Ukraine! The occupiers are 'filtering' every resident to see if he / she is 'anti-Russian', then murdering some, deporting some to Siberia, and sending others, in Russian military uniform, to battlefronts to force them to kill their Ukrainian brothers and sisters. The Russian army has been abducting many children to the Russian mainland to make them grow into 'Russian youths hostile to Ukraine'.

Precisely for this reason, Ukrainian people are fighting for driving out the invading army at the risk of their lives, for their beloved children and family members, for their future.

Let us fight to crush *Putin's war!*

From early May, the Russian military carried out waves of aerial attacks on cities in Donetsk, and to add to it, in Kharkiv, using huge glide bombs, while launching a cross-border offensive, taking advantage of the delay in aid to Ukraine from the US and European governments. The Russian military destroyed 80 per cent of Ukrainian power plants, which was also designed to create a great number of Ukrainian refugees. In opposition to all this, Ukrainian forces, despite the absence of proper air defence systems, and despite a shortage of ammunition, just an eighth of Russia's storage, held back the aggressor's offensive by mainly using home-made drones supplied by Ukrainian people themselves.

But the Ukrainian resistance is now faced with another difficulty.

In the United States, which is now in the heat of a presidential election campaign, the mood has spread that 'Trump might be better' due to Biden's blunder in the televised debate. Donald Trump has a scheme that, if he is re-elected, he will end the war in a form in which, for instance, 'Ukraine promises not to join in NATO and then starts talks with Putin about which parts of its eastern border areas as well as Crimea it cedes to Russia'. As if being in perfect agreement with this, Putin says, 'The conditions for talks have to be that Ukraine forces completely withdraw from the four regions annexed to Russia and that Ukraine does not join in NATO'.

In these circumstances, Viktor Orban of Hungary was inaugurated as President of the EU Council on July 1st. On the day after the inauguration, he visited Kyiv and urged the Volodymyr Zelensky-led government to 'seek a cease-fire and start peace talks'. And on July 5th, he held talks with Putin in Moscow, saying that he would play a 'key role in stepping forward towards peace'.

Not only is he pro-Putin and pro-Xi Jinping, Orban says openly that he hopes for Trump's reelection. Even though his term as EU president expires at the end of the year, such behaviour of Orban means the acquittal of Putin the one-sided aggressor and can accelerate a trend towards an 'end of the Ukraine war' in a form completely favourable for Russia.

Once Czar Putin wins a 'conclusion' of his military aggression against Ukraine in such a way, the Russian rulers will no doubt start watching for a chance for 'What's next'.

No matter how terribly their country may be devastated, they have no chance left other than 'escape forward'. There is no doubt that they will intend to exterminate the state of Ukraine and to liquidate the history and the culture of the nation and eradicate its national and ethnic identities. This is not all. Remember the words of Putin: 'The destruction of the Soviet Union was a geopolitical catastrophe.' With the aim of recovering their territories lost in the 'catastrophe', they will no doubt bolster up their evil ambition to extend their aggressive reach to former USSR republics and further to former USSR satellite countries in Eastern Europe, backed by their tremendous nuclear capabilities.

Working people in Europe, don't allow far-rights' rampancy!

We must by all means blow up the evil ambition of Putin the 'Hitler of the 21st century'.

In European countries, however, far-right forces, such as France's *Rassemblement National* and Germany's *Alternative für Deutschland*, are rampant, demanding that their governments change the policy of supporting Ukraine and instead give priority to economic issues in their own countries. This was shown by the remarkable increase in the number of seats obtained by these far-right forces through the latest European Parliament elections. They are pro-Russian forces that openly admit having received financial support from Russia.

To our regret, a certain number of working people supported these far-right forces, amid severe social and economic contradictions, including skyrocketing inflation and a sharp increase in the number of refugees.

But our fraternal workers in Europe! Abandoning our Ukrainian brothers and sisters is an act of killing ourselves as the working class! Let us listen here to what fighting Ukrainian people appeal to us.

On the eve of the European Parliament elections in June, Ukrainian trade unions and other organizations (including students' ones) held a meeting and issued a joint appeal 'Justice for Ukrainian Workers!' (This appeal is posted in the Website of an organization that participated in the meeting.) By first confirming anew that 'The resilience of Ukrainian society depends on ordinary workers, who make up the majority of the armed forces and ensure the functioning of the home front in logistics, production, and maintenance of critical infrastructure,' the appeal stresses as follows:

'While the international community is stuck in indecision, Russian occupation troops are gladly stepping up their offensive. Our comrades are dying on the frontline, forced to fight without enough arms supplies, and in the absence of proper air defence, our power plants, factories, and homes are being hit by devastating strikes. With truly "unwavering support", this would not have been inevitable. However, for now, we have to face aggressor mainly on our own.'

They appeal to workers in EU countries.

'We understand that only together can we defend democracy and social justice from invasions of imperialism, the pressure of dictators, the appetites of oligarchs, and the demagoguery of the fat right.'

Workers in Europe!

We, as workers who live at the bottom of capitalist society, cannot pursue our own interests at the sacrifice of other workers. The source of the working class power that can resist the state power of the ruling class lies only in the class unity of the working class based on the self-awareness of being wage slaves. And the quality of the unity of the working class, who essentially have no national border, is demonstrated in the attitudes to our brothers and sisters who are separated from us by the walls of the states.

That is why we workers must not leave our Ukrainian brothers and sisters to their fate. 'No support to Ukraine' should never be a slogan raised by workers.

Workers in Eastern Europe!

In February this year, two years after the Russian invasion of Ukraine, mass demonstrations were carried out in many cities in Eastern Europe to oppose Russia's aggression in Ukraine. In Hungary under the Orban-led government, workers marched, raising the slogan '1956 and 2022, our enemy is the same'.

In 1956, Hungarian working people rose up in arms to demand 'de-Stalinization' on the basis of the soviets in which workers, peasants, students and soldiers organized themselves. This fight, however, was trampled down by tanks sent by the Soviet government of the Stalinist bureaucrats, where tens of thousands of people were murdered. The founder of our movement assimilated the outcries of those Hungarian workers as his own matter and started an anti-Stalinist revolutionary communist movement in Japan. Since then, we have been fighting under the banner 'anti-imperialism, anti-Stalinism'.

Hungarian workers who fought in the past against the brutalities of the Kremlin! Workers in the Czech Republic and Slovakia! Workers in Poland!

In the autocratic system of the Communist Party in the era of Soviet 'socialism', there used to be a bunch who controlled its violent apparatuses for ruling the working people in an authoritarian way. They have now become the new rulers of the Russian Federation, as 'Siloviks'. Ukrainian people are about to be dragged into this 'empire' stained with unprecedented evil. We must not sit idly by looking at this historic crime!

Achieve a 'People's Peace' with workers' unity

In spite of this, some of the European leftists shower incredible abuse upon those fighting Ukrainian people and defend *Putin's war* implicitly and explicitly.

They say, for instance: 'Both Russia and Ukraine should lay down arms and declare a cease-fire immediately.' 'There is no resistance in Ukraine to support.' 'It's nationalist to say "Defend Ukraine".' 'To be blamed is not Russia but NATO.'

Of course, even though they utter similar words, what are meant by them can be various. Some may grieve about the sufferings of Ukrainians, and yet think that they must not say things accelerating the war since they develop their activities in a country affiliated with NATO. Others may think that the war in Ukraine is a territorial dispute between Slavs. Still others may not only slander fighting Ukrainian people by labeling them 'nationalists', but also say that 'No to the massacres in Gaza' is a nonsensical slogan because 'there is no Palestinian people', by

using words identical with far rights.

In any case, however, what are common among those who develop such arguments are the following.

They intentionally obscure the very starting point, that is 'who is invading and who are invaded'. They have neither anger against invaders nor sympathies with oppressed workers. They themselves have fallen into a 'My Country First' position, which is identical with that of the governments and the ruling classes.

Asking 'Which is to blame, NATO or Russia?' bespeaks the fact that they are utterly aloof from the material reality of Ukrainian working people who are suffering and struggling. It is a product of those who have fallen in a politico-mechanical way of thinking, which is similar to the 'logic of power politics' espoused by the state rulers.

In opposition to these, fighting Ukrainian leftists and European activists who support them are based firmly on a working class standpoint.

For instance, according to the information posted in the social media of European Network in Solidarity with Ukraine, organizations from Ukraine and Europe (including East Europe) issued a joint declaration in June. Under the title 'A People's Peace not an Imperial Peace', the declaration says:

'They [governments of Europe and North America] are backing Ukraine to assert their own interests in the global imperialist rivalry.' 'We need a peace that is based on, as well as supported by, the interests of the people and of workers in Ukraine and Russia.'

For this reason, the declaration also says:

'An effective military support of Ukraine does not require a new wave of armaments. We oppose NATO's rearmament programs and weapon exports to third countries.'

From this standpoint, it appeals:

'We oppose attempts by "Western" governments, NATO and EU exponents to pressure Ukraine into making massive concessions to the Russian occupying power.'

They feel, think and fight anytime heart in heart with the world's working people.

They extend their solidarity to working people in the aggressor country Russia, especially to people of ethnic minorities, while grieving about the fact that they are forcibly sent to battlefields. They consistently emphasize solidarity with Palestinians, thus collecting signatures amid the war. They also express their solidarity with Kurdish people, whose dream of establishing their own state was frustrated by imperialist machinations after the First World War.

We appeal to working people all over the world!

In the middle of the war, they are fighting in pursuit of 'justice for workers', and gazing at a 'people's peace' over the fires of war. Let us advance heart in heart, arm in arm with them.

Break through the crisis of nuclear warfare!

Putin's war is a historic brutality aimed to recover the lost territories of the former USSR. With this war as a decisive turning point, today's world has deepened its military, political and economic crises all at once, thus plunging into a critical phase, which is to be called the eve of a Third World War. We must break through the danger of the outbreak of a thermonuclear war, which leads humanity to its extinction.

Putin's Russia has already finished deploying its nuclear warheads in Belarus and carried out joint exercises for using nuclear weapons. In East Asia, Kim Jong-Un's North Korea, which has obtained a new backer, Russia, is dashing to construct a system for nuclear attacks against South Korea and Japan, and besides the United States, by even abandoning its strategy for 'reunification between North and South Koreans'.

The world has now been divided into two, the East and the West. The declining imperialist state of America is now hell-bent on building up an Asia-Pacific version of NATO, together with Japan as its effective 'vassal state', in a bid to defeat anti-American challenges from China and Russia.

In rivalry with this, China, a neo-Stalinist state which puts up the signboard of 'market socialism', supports Russia, which is mired in its war of aggression against Ukraine. By taking advantage of this warfare, China is intent on undermining the 'US-led international order' and building up a 'new international order'. China as such and Russia are consolidating the Shanghai Cooperation Organization as a core of the said 'new international order'

and at the same time attempting to expand the BRICS. And, backed with these moves, the Xi Jinping leadership of China is accelerating its schemes to absorb Taiwan and to territorialize the South China Sea, while Putin-led Russian is bent on winning rulers of ‘Global South’ over to his side in a bid to break the impasse of the war of aggression in Ukraine.

Because of the intensified ‘US-Japan-Europe v.s. China-Russia’ rivalry, the danger of a Third World War is increasing day by day.

Workers and students all over the world!

We, workers and students in Japan are fighting struggles against *Putin’s war* and those against *Netanyahu’s war* by closely combining the two.

Militant workers are faced with the situation where the Japanese Communist Party and others are doing nothing to fight to ‘oppose Russia’s aggression in Ukraine’. They are fighting to break through this situation and create mass struggles from within the labour front. Students of Zengakuren are fighting against a fascistic transformation of university authorities (the case of Aich University), which have gone so far as to expel students just for their participation in a rally hosted by Ukrainians living in Japan and for their speech ‘against the invasion of Ukraine’. This fight, having been waged for two years, has aroused widespread sympathy among students, workers and citizens in Japan. Thus young generations in Japan have started to stand up by raising their voices, ‘No to war, no to genocide, no to higher tuition fees and no to universities’ cooperation with the military’.

We are also fighting to break through a hair-trigger military crisis arising from the intensified confrontation between the US-Japan-South Korea and China-Russia-North Korea.

Japan is now in a government crisis caused by the Liberal Democratic Party as a ruling bourgeois party stained with money politics, while the JCP has abandoned its ‘opposition to the US-Japan Security Treaty’ in expectation that it could find a way to join in a new government. The JCP has completely transformed into a party for the bourgeois order. Denouncing such bottomless degeneration of the established leaderships of opposition movements, we are creating struggles under the banners, ‘Stop the building of a pre-emptive attack system with Okinawa as its front base!’ ‘Against the transformation of the US-Japan security alliance into a global alliance!’ ‘Against the tremendous military build-up and the revision of the Constitution of Japan!’

The world has entered an age of an armament race on an unprecedented scale. We must resolutely denounce rulers for frantically strengthening their nuclear military capabilities. We must break through the sneaking crisis of the outbreak of a Third World War with the united power of the world’s working class.

Workers and students all over the world!

It’s time for workers of all countries to unite. For a new future without war, oppression, poverty and exploitation, let us fight together and advance together!

Postscript

On July 8th, in the morning, the Russian military attacked five Ukrainian cities including the capital Kyiv, where it shot a missile into the nation’s most important children’s hospital with 720 beds, Okhmatdyt hospital, and destroyed it. By this attack, a great many people were killed and injured. Denounce mad murderer Putin!

The last year’s Antiwar Assembly
in Tokyo.

